

**United States Environmental Protection Agency
Region VI
 POLLUTION REPORT**

Date: Friday, May 30, 2008

From: Eric Delgado

Subject: Light Fraction Sampling
Gerdau Ameristeel
300 Ward St., Midlothian, TX

POLREP No.:	4	Site #:	
Reporting Period:		D.O. #:	
Start Date:	5/27/2008	Response Authority:	CERCLA
Mob Date:	5/27/2008	Response Type:	Emergency
Demob Date:		NPL Status:	
Completion Date:		Incident Category:	
CERCLIS ID #:		Contract #	
RCRIS ID #:			

Site Description

At approximately 2030 hours on 26 May 2008, a fire started in a scrap metal pile at the Gerdau Ameristeel facility in Midlothian, Ellis County, Texas. The scrap pile consisted of miscellaneous bundles of scrap metal, automobiles and other large pieces of scrap metals. The facility and 5 local fire departments have responded to the fire. No evacuations are in place and no injuries have been reported.

The facility representatives notified the TCEQ at approximately 0530 hours on 27 May 2008 of the fire. The TCEQ notified US EPA Region 6 Prevention and Response Branch. US EPA On-Scene Coordinator Eric Delgado and EPA START-3 contractors were mobilized the scene at 0600 hours 27 May 2008.

Current Activities

During the morning hours of 30 May 2008, START-3 remobilized to the Gerdau Ameristeel facility to collect split samples with Gerdau Ameristeel of their light fractions that were generated from shredding the burned scrap metal pile. The samples were collected from 3 stock piles of material approximately 50 cu yards each between the hours of 1230 and 1330. The TSCA sampling method listed in 40 CFR 761 Subpart R was utilized for this sampling event. Gerdau Ameristeel's contractor for this sampling event was Titan Engineering. A total of 3 samples were collected by Gerdau Ameristeel, and START-3 collected a split sample of each one. These samples are to be analyzed for TCLP RCRA 8 Metals, TCLP PCBs, Total PCBS as well as Reactivity, Corrosivity and Ignitability (RCI). The split samples collected by START-3 will also be tested for the presence of calcium phosphate. While onsite, START-3 also observed all 3 berms that had been put in place to retain the firewater runoff. Two of the berms onsite were still in place and vac trucks were continuing to collect the remaining water in these bermed areas. START-3 observed a small amount of water less than a foot deep at each bermed location. START-3 also observed approximately 30 frac tanks onsite that were used to contain the firewater runoff. After relaying START-3's observation to OSC Delgado, OSC Delgado advised Gerdau Ameristeel that the berms could be removed, and the collection of the remaining water could be suspended. The remaining berm which had been placed in Soap Creek near Wyatt Road had been washed out prior to START-3s observation.

Next Steps

EPA is planning to collect split samples with Gerdau Ameristeel of the firewater runoff that was collected in the frac tanks.

EPA is planning a hotwash meeting the week of June 9th. One of the main topics for the meeting will be notification procedures for emergency response, ICS implementation, and waste disposal.

Key Issues

Concern for parties on site and ability to follow ICS structure during initial emergency response.
PRP indicated they will be improving ER Plans and considering further training of various employees.

Estimated Costs *

	Budgeted	Total To Date	Remaining	% Remaining
Extramural Costs				
Intramural Costs				
Total Site Costs	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%

* The above accounting of expenditures is an estimate based on figures known to the OSC at the time this report was written. The OSC does not necessarily receive specific figures on final payments made to any contractor(s). Other financial data which the OSC must rely upon may not be entirely up-to-date. The cost accounting provided in this report does not necessarily represent an exact monetary figure which the government may include in any claim for cost recovery.

response.epa.gov/gerdauameristeel